

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

Claims 2-9, 11-16, and 23-28 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 10, and 17-22 have been canceled.

Receipt is acknowledged of Applicant's response / amendment filed on November 27, 2009 and that has been entered.

Applicant's response and amendments have been fully considered and found persuasive with respect to the rejection of claims 1 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph, and the rejection is hereby withdrawn.

Applicant's response and amendments have been fully considered and found persuasive with respect to the rejection of claims 1 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (e), and the rejection is hereby withdrawn.

In view of a fair interpretation of the claims, the Examiner will rejoin claims 25 and 27 to the elected Group I (because they fall within the scope of elected invention) and therefore, the restriction requirement has been withdrawn and hence, all remaining pending claims 2-9, 11-16, 25, 27, and 28 are now found allowable over the prior art of record.

Examiner's amendment

An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephonic interview with Mr. Rouget Henschel on December 18, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Claims 23, 24 and 26 have been canceled.

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Golam Shameem, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0706. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7922. The Official fax phone numbers for this Group are (571) 273-8300. When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mckane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or public PAIR only. For more information about the pair system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

/Golam M. M. Shameem/
Primary Examiner
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Technology Center 1600

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